

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview.
Exaction Retraction (15–20 Minutes)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

Goal

Students step into the role of a just modern monarch who abolishes five specific unfair taxes, using Biblical principles..

Instructions

1. Introduce this activity by telling students this: “Now that you’ve identified unfair taxes, you’ll become the ruler who gets to fix them. In the next activity, you’ll write a royal decree that abolishes the worst exactions and replaces them with something fairer—or better yet, doesn’t replace them at all. Remember: God told rulers to remove exactions, not just complain about them.”
2. Read the instructions together.
3. Give students 10–12 minutes to answer the questions in pairs or small groups.
4. Discuss as a class, making sure to let all groups participate.

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You are a modern monarch who has decided to follow the Bible's command to rulers to "take away your exactions" (Ezekiel 45:9). You plan to write a royal decree explaining what you will do to obey this command, and why. From the reading, pick the three exactions (progressive income tax, inflation, and protective tariffs). But also include TWO others your group came up with from the "Exaction Extraction" activity.

In the year of our Lord 20____, I, King/Queen _____, do hereby abolish the following exactions, which violate Ezekiel 45:9 ("take away your exactions from my people"):

Exaction #1: Progressive Income Tax

Reason for abolition:

Exaction #2: Inflation

Reason for abolition:

Exaction #3: Protective Tariffs

Reason for abolition:

Exaction #4:

Reason for abolition:

Exaction #5:

Reason for abolition:

Any taxes collected in this nation shall be used only for _____

because the Lord commands rulers to "execute judgment and justice" and "remove violence and spoil."

